

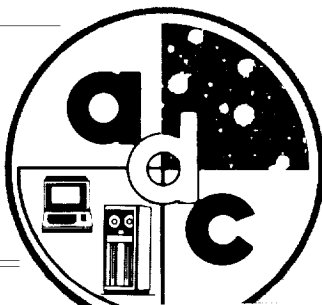
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***A COMPILATION OF REDSHIFTS AND
VELOCITY DISPERSIONS FOR
ABELL CLUSTERS***

(Struble and Rood 1987)

Documentation for the Machine-Readable Version



January 1989

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Documentation for the Machine-Readable Version

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Abstract

The machine-readable version of the compilation, as it is currently being distributed from the Astronomical Data Center, is described. The catalog contains redshifts and velocity dispersions for all Abell clusters for which these data had been published up to 1986 July. Also included are 1950 equatorial coordinates for the centers of the listed clusters, numbers of observations used to determine the redshifts, and bibliographical references citing the data sources.

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Description

The present compilation was undertaken in connection with the authors' statistical studies of the morphological and structural properties of Abell clusters (Struble and Rood 1982, 1984, 1987b, 1987c). The list contains redshift data for 578 Abell clusters and velocity-dispersion data for 77. It supersedes previous compilations of Fetisova (1982) and Sarazin, Struble, and Rood (1982). A separate file contains a list of 16 Abell clusters having published redshifts that are probably measurements of foreground or background galaxies in the line of sight toward each referenced Abell cluster.

This document describes the machine-readable version of *A Compilation of Redshifts and Velocity Dispersions for Abell Clusters* as it is currently being distributed from the Astronomical Data Center (ADC). It is intended to enable users to read and process the computerized catalog without problems and guesswork, and it should be used only to supplement the information contained in the published paper cited below. The machine-readable tables in this catalog essentially follow the formats of the published tables except for minor changes to effect uniformity. **A copy of this document should be transmitted to any recipient of the machine-readable catalog originating from the ADC.**

1.2 Source Reference

Struble, M. F. and Rood, H. J. 1987, *Astrophys. J. Suppl.* **63**, 543.

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2.0 Structure

2.1 File Summary

The machine version of *A Compilation of Redshifts and Velocity Dispersions for Abell Clusters* consists of four files. Table 1 gives the machine-independent file attributes. All logical records are of fixed length; if the catalog is received on magnetic tape, it will contain blocks of fixed length (as noted below) except that the last block of each file may be short. The first file contains the basic data of the compilation, while the second and third files contain textual information providing notes and bibliographical references for the main table. The fourth file is very short and contains data for the 16 clusters mentioned in Section 1.1.

<i>A Compilation of Redshifts and Velocity Dispersions for Abell Clusters</i> (Struble and Rood 1987)				
File	Contents	Record Format	Logical Record Length	Total Number of Logical Records
1	Data	FB	88	588
2	Notes	FB	80	78
3	References	FB	80	108
4	Data	FB	37	16

Table 1. Summary Description of Catalog Files: FB = Fixed length blocks (last may be short)

The information contained in the above table is sufficient for a user to describe the indigenous characteristics of the machine-readable version of *A Compilation of Redshifts and Velocity Dispersions for Abell Clusters* to a computer. Information easily varied from installation to installation, such as block size (physical record length), blocking factor (number of logical records per physical record), total number of blocks, density, number of tracks and character coding (ASCII, EBCDIC) for tapes, is not included, but should always accompany secondary copies if any are supplied to other users or installations.

2.2 Main Catalog (File 1 of 4)

This file contains the compilation of basic data for the Abell clusters included in the catalog. As noted in the source reference, the redshift, z , derived from a given N_{new} and/or N_{adt} is usually, but not always, for the number of separate galaxies in a cluster. This occurs because the position of each galaxy is not always given in the original references listed in the table (bytes 63-70). In other words, it is possible for z_{new} to be based on, say, three values and for two of those to be for the same galaxy. The authors state, however, that they have taken care to ensure that the numbers used in determining the velocity dispersions, σ , are really based on z values of separate galaxies. The notes to the table (file 2) give details for a few clusters where z_{new} and σ are determined from different numbers of galaxies because of the above-mentioned ambiguities. There are also a few cases where the N used to determine σ_{new} is greater than N_{new} -- these occurrences are explained in the notes.

Table 2 gives a byte-by-byte description of the contents of the main data file. A suggested Fortran format specification for reading each data field is included and can be modified depending upon individual programming and processing requirements (Fortran 77 character string-type formats are used); however, caution is advised when substituting format specifications, since some data fields contain character data and others are blank when data are absent. In particular, except for Abell cluster number, equatorial coordinates, and z_{adt} , any data field can be blank. The field for N_{adt} can be zero (always accompanied by a ">" character in byte 80) or blank. Data fields containing valid numerical data, but where blank fields can exist, are specified with primary numerical formats to give the decimal-point locations, while alternate formats are included in parentheses. For the above reason and because the reported precision may vary within such fields, it is safest to buffer in records in an unformatted mode or read them with character (A) formats and test for blanks before with numerical formats for calculations and/or search purposes. Default (null) values are always blanks in data fields for which primary suggested formats are given as A.

Byte(s)	Units	Suggested Format	Default Value	Data
1-4	---	I4	---	Abell cluster number
5	---	1X	---	Blank
6	---	A1	---	Component
7	---	1X	---	Blank
8-9	hours	I2	---	Right ascension, α
10	---	1X	---	Blank
11-14	min	F4.1	---	α
15	---	1X	---	Blank
16-18	°	I3	---	Declination, δ
19	---	1X	---	Blank
20-21	'	I2	---	δ
22	---	1X	---	Blank
23-28	---	F6.4 (A6)	blank	Redshift, z_{SRS}
29	---	1X	---	Blank
30-32	---	I3 (A3)	blank	Number of redshifts, N_{SRS}
33	---	1X	---	Blank
34-39	---	F6.4 (A6)	blank	Redshift, z_{Fet}
40	---	1X	---	Blank
41	---	A1	---	Lower limit indicator (" > ")
42-44	---	I3 (A3)	blank	Number of redshifts, N_{Fet}
45	---	1X	---	Blank
46-51	---	F6.4 (A6)	blank	Redshift, z_{new}
52	---	1X	---	Blank
53	---	A1	---	Lower limit indicator (" > ")
54-56	---	I3	---	Number of redshifts, N_{new}
57	---	1X	---	Blank
58-61	km s ⁻¹	I4 (A4)	blank	Velocity dispersion, σ
62	---	1X	---	Blank
63-70	---	A8	---	Reference codes
71	---	A1	---	Note code
72	---	1X	---	Blank
73-78	---	F6.4 (A6)	---	Redshift, z_{adt}
79	---	1X	---	Blank
80	---	A1	---	Lower limit indicator (" > ")
81-83	---	I3 (A3)	blank	Number of redshifts, N_{adt}
84	---	1X	---	Blank
85-88	km s ⁻¹	I4 (A4)	blank	Velocity dispersion, σ_{adt}

Table 2. Data File Record Format

Abell number	Cluster designation in Abell's (1958) catalog.
Component	Letter designations (N, S, E, W) to indicate that the data refer to northern, southern, eastern, or western components of clusters with two concentrations of galaxies that are assumed to be at the same distance. z values are often available for only one component. A letter "B" or "C" denotes reference to a second or third cluster superimposed on the cluster taken to be the Abell cluster, which has a blank (implicitly an "A") suffix. According to the compilers, "reasonably secure redshifts were adopted for 578 Abell clusters, of which one has two components (A98), and nine have two or three listings for B and C designations."
Equatorial coordinates	Equinox 1950.
Redshift, z_{SRS}	The redshift, z , compiled by Sarazin, Rood, and Struble (SRS, 1982).
N_{SRS}	Number of redshifts used to determine z_{SRS} .

Redshift, z_{Fet}	The redshift, z , compiled by Fetisova (Fet, 1982).
N_{Fet}	Number of redshifts used to determine z_{Fet} . A lower limit indicator (" $>$ ") in byte 41 reflects an ambiguity in the number of redshifts used to determine z_{Fet} from some of the original references.
Redshift, z_{new}	The redshift, z , compiled from a source more recent than either SRS or Fet.
N_{new}	Number of redshifts used to determine z_{new} . A lower limit indicator (" $>$ ") in byte 53 has the same meaning as for byte 41. Some cluster redshifts are determined from redshifts of cluster members contained in two or three references, as indicated in bytes 63-70.
Velocity dispersion, σ	σ determined from references in SRS, Fet, or new. Many are determined from redshifts of cluster members contained in two or three references.
Reference codes	Code(s) for reference sources of the data for z_{new} , N_{new} , and σ . References are given in file 3.
Note code	Lower case letter codes for notes. The letter codes have the following meanings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a note in SRS b note in Fet c note given in file 2 d a, b, and c e a and b f a and c g b and c
Redshift, z_{adt}	The adopted redshift.
N_{adt}	Number of cluster member galaxies used to determine z_{adt} .
Velocity dispersion, σ_{adt}	The adopted velocity dispersion, based on N_{new} or its lower limit, not on N_{adt} , except for a few cases explained in the notes.

2.3 Notes (File 2 of 4)

This file contains the notes for clusters flagged by the code "c" in byte 71 of the data file.

Byte(s)	Fortran Format	Data
1	A1	The letter "A"
2-5	A4 (I4)	Abell cluster number
6-7	2X	Blank
8-80	A73	Notes

Table 3. Notes File Record Format

Abell number Cluster designation in Abell's (1958) catalog.

Notes Notes in free text (mixed case) form. When bytes 2-5 are blank, this record continues the remarks for the previous cluster.

2.4 References (File 3 of 4)

This file contains the bibliographical references ordered by the codes used in the data file.

Byte(s)	Fortran Format	Data
1-3	A3 (I3)	Reference code
4	A1	A period (".")
5-6	2X	Blank
7-80	A74	Reference

Table 4. References File Record Format

Reference code Number of reference coded in bytes 63-70 of the data file.

Reference Reference in free text (mixed case) form. Second and subsequent lines of a reference are indented, so, if byte 8 is blank, the line is a continuation of the current reference.

2.5 Table 2 (File 4 of 4)

This file contains a listing of redshifts previously incorrectly assigned to Abell clusters. The assigned redshifts are probably for foreground and background galaxies superposed on the listed Abell cluster, as ascertained either in the cited reference or by the authors' inspection of the redshift data and the distance classes of the clusters.

Byte(s)	Units	Suggested Format	Default Value	Data
1-4	---	I4	---	Abell cluster number
5	---	1X	---	Blank
6	---	A1	---	Component
7	---	1X	---	Blank
8-9	hours	I2	---	Right ascension, α
10	---	1X	---	Blank
11-14	min	F4.1	---	α
15	---	1X	---	Blank
16-18	°	I3	---	Declination, δ
19	---	1X	---	Blank
20-21	'	I2	---	δ
22-23	---	2X	---	Blank
24-29	---	F6.4	---	Redshift, z_{new}
30	---	1X	---	Blank
31	---	A1	---	Lower limit indicator (">")
32-33	---	I2 (A2)	blank	Number of redshifts, N_{new}
34	---	1X	---	Blank
35-37	---	A3	---	Reference code

Table 5. Data File Record Format

Abell number	Cluster designation in Abell's (1958) catalog.
Component	Same description as for main catalog file.
Equatorial coordinates	Equinox 1950.
Redshift, z_{new}	The redshift, z , taken from the cited source.
N_{new}	Number of redshifts used to determine z_{new} . A lower limit indicator (">") in byte 31 reflects ambiguity in the number of redshifts used to determine z_{new} from some of the original sources. A blank indicates that the information is not given in the cited reference.
Reference code	A code for the reference source of the data for z_{new} and N_{new} , either given in file 3 (numerical code) or to denote the source as SRS or Fet.

3.0 History

3.1 *Remarks and Modifications*

The machine-readable data files of *A Compilation of Redshifts and Velocity Dispersions for Abell Clusters* were received on magnetic tape by the Astronomical Data Center (ADC) from Dr. Herbert J. Rood on July 13, 1987. The tape files were written in VAX VMS backup format and, therefore, were loaded to the VAX 8650 computer of the National Space Science Data Center (NSSDC), from which they were transferred via a local area network to the IBM 3081 computer of the NASA Space and Earth Sciences Computing Center (NSESCC) at the Goddard Space Flight Center. As received, the files of the machine version essentially duplicated Tables 1 and 2 of the source reference. They were reformatted at the ADC to eliminate unnecessary spaces and to homogenize the format and data presentation; *e.g.*, preceding zeros were added to z values and plus signs were added to all positive declination values. The notes and references were computerized at the ADC and added to the machine version. Listings of the files were then sent to Dr. Rood for comments and suggestions. This resulted in the removal of one column of data in Table 1 (the main catalog) that contained some cross identifications to Zwicky cluster numbers. The Zwicky cross identifications do not appear in the published table and were stated by Dr. Rood to be possibly incomplete and not fully checked. Following the reformatting of Table 1, the catalog was considered ready for archiving and distribution.

4.0 Acknowledgments and References

4.1 Acknowledgments

We express appreciation to Dr. Rood for supplying the machine-readable data files, for examining and commenting on the preliminary completed machine version, and for reviewing a draft copy of this document before its final preparation for distribution with the machine-readable catalog. Transfer of the tape files to the NSSDC VAX and to the IBM 3081 was done by Dr. Young Woon Kang, formerly of the Astronomical Data Center.

4.2 References

- Abell, G. O. 1958, *Astrophys. J. Suppl.* **3**, 211.
- Fetisova, T. S. 1982, *Soviet Astron. AJ* **25**, 647 (Fet).
- Sarazin, C., Rood, H. J., and Struble, M. F. 1982, *Astron. Astrophys.* **108**, L7 (SRS).
- Struble, M. F. and Rood, H. J. 1982, *Astron. J.* **87**, 7.
- Struble, M. F. and Rood, H. J. 1984, *Astron. J.* **89**, 1487.
- Struble, M. F. and Rood, H. J. 1987a, *Astrophys. J. Suppl.* **63**, 543.
- Struble, M. F. and Rood, H. J. 1987b, *Astrophys. J. Suppl.* **63**, 555.
- Struble, M. F. and Rood, H. J. 1987c, *Astron. J.* **93**, 1035.

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Appendix A. Sample Listing

The sample listing given on the following pages shows logical records exactly as they are recorded in the machine-readable version of the catalog. Groups of records from the beginning and end of each file are illustrated. The beginning of each record and the bytes within the record are indicated by the column heading index across the top of each page (digits read vertically).

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LISTING OF RECORDS FROM DATA FILE

Data File Name: Abell Clusters Notes

Records 1 To 20

Data File 209

Record Length 80 bytes

Input VOLSER ADC007

C O L U M N
H E A D I N G
I N D E X

111111111122222222223333333333444444444455555555556666666666777777777788888888889999999999000000000111111
123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345

- Record 1 A 133 Ref. 47 cautions that z(new) is based primarily on faint galaxies in the
- Record 2 cluster core.
- Record 3 A 140 Values of z for cluster members were determined from an objective-prism
- Record 4 survey, and the error in the z of an individual galaxy is about 500 km/s,
- Record 5 sigma given in ref. 15 is 2700 km/s, but four galaxies are probably in
- Record 6 the foreground/background of the cluster.
- Record 7 A 158 Fetisova's z value for the cluster is derived from galaxy redshifts that
- Record 8 include two probable foreground galaxies superposed on the cluster.
- Record 9 A 171 The value of sigma is derived from the redshifts of four galaxies in
- Record 10 ref. 9.
- Record 11 A 186 Ref. 31 also lists $z = 0.1538$ ($N = 1$).
- Record 12 A 204 Ref. 31 also lists $z = 0.1870$ ($N = 1$).
- Record 13 A 232 Ref. 31 also lists $z = 0.1329$ ($N = 2$).
- Record 14 A 439 The value of z given in ref. 69 (0.1027) is a typographical error.
- Record 15 A 539 Two z values given in ref. 17 are probably foreground (M. Kowalski 1986,
- Record 16 private communication), so z(adt) is z(SRS) and z(Fet).
- Record 17 A 644 Ref. 47 cautions that z(new) is based primarily on faint galaxies in the
- Record 18 cluster core.
- Record 19 A 1126 Ref. 47 cautions that z(new) is based primarily on faint galaxies in the
- Record 20 cluster core.

